VPI/98-101US CP1 CN1 DV1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Peter G. O Sullivan

Group Art Unit : 1621

Application No. : 10/614432

Confirmation No.: 2579

Applicants : Roger D. Tung, et al.

Filed : July 7, 2003

For : INHIBITORS OF SERINE PROTEASES, PARTICULARLY HCV

NS3 PROTEASE

June 9, 2010 Cambridge, Massachusetts

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This is in response to the December 9, 2009 Office Action in the above-identified application. A three month extension of time to respond to the Office Action is respectfully requested. A Petition for Extension of Time and the appropriate fee are being filed concurrently with this Reply. With the extension of time the response is due on or before June 9, 2010, and as a result the response is timely filed. In lieu of a Reply a Continuation Application is being filed concurrently.

Respectfully submitted,

/Susan C. Kelly/

Susan C. Kelly (Reg. No. 58,046) Agent for Applicants Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated 130 Waverly Street Cambridge, MA 02139-4242

Tel.: (617)444-7374 Fax.: (617)444-6483

Customer Number: 27916